

IN SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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JANUARY 6, 1840.

Submitted, and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted the following

REPORT :

*The Committee on Naval Affairs, to which was referred the petition of William Easby, report :*

That the petitioner asks compensation for services rendered in 1826, in launching the frigate Potomac. It appears by the petitioner's own showing, that, at the time of performing this service, he was employed as master boat-builder at the navy yard in Washington, and received three dollars per day for his services as such ; and while engaged in launching the Potomac was allowed one dollar and fifty cents per day extra by the navy commissioners, which was deemed by them as a full and fair compensation for the extra service.

But the petitioner is not satisfied, and now, after a lapse of 13 years, asks Congress to make him a further allowance, for the reason that he endangered his life and health in performing that service ; and by his skill and exertions launched the frigate at less expense than had been estimated by the naval constructor.

The committee are not aware of any rule of law or equity which would give to the petitioner additional compensation for his services ; nor are they disposed to encourage applications for grants from the Treasury for extra services, which were compensated at the time of performance, by a board fully competent to estimate and determine their value, and submit the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That the prayer of the petition of William Easby, for compensation for extra services in launching the frigate Potomac, be not granted.

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Blair & Rives, printers

